

A. F. U. BULLETIN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF ALBERTA FARMERS' UNION

102 La Fleche Building, 102 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, Phone 25965

VOL. V.

Edmonton, Alberta, August, 1945

NUMBER 8.



Notice Re Farm Wages


APPEAL TO ALL FARMERS

Farmers are requested to act in a UNION manner in respect to Farm Wages.

A reasonable rate of \$5 per day for Harvest and \$6 per day for Threshing should be held to for efficient help; and these rates have the approval of Selective Service for Harvest Help coming from Ontario and therefore these rates should be acceptable as general wages in the West.

We would remind all farmers that it will be more conducive to the smooth running of the harvest work if they refrain from bidding up wages to unreasonable levels as this always results in the continuous changing of jobs and both farmer and man are out-of-pocket in the end.

We ask the co-operation of all UNION farmers in this attempt to stabilize the Harvest Help Problem on a fair basis.



Revolutionary Plow

A picture demonstration showing the new rotary plow at work was shown under the auspices of the Department of Economics in Edmonton to some practical farmers representing the Alberta Farmers' Union as well as others, by the representative of the company, Mr. E. W. Spafford.

The plow is like a giant auger which lies squarely behind the tractor from which it is driven by a power take-off. The speed and depth can be regulated and it will plow to a depth of seven inches if required. The rotary screw-like action pulverizes the soil just as thoroughly as is desired and it works in both dry and wet sticky soils.

The inventor, Chas. Peter will be in Edmonton at a later date and it is aimed to have a real demonstration in different parts of the Province. All farmers interested should be on the watch for notices of these demonstrations.

Action by Union on Farmers' Behalf

A fire occurred at Inland Wednesday, July 25th, in which three elevators were burned down. A considerable amount of damaged grain was salvaged. The Head Office of the Union was informed by Russell Goshko, Secretary of Inland Local, that the salvaged grain would be disposed of by the insurance adjusters to a livestock buying firm, which would be able to buy unfinished livestock in the district at cheap prices, and in addition buy up, at salvage prices, the grain necessary to finish them.

The following wire was therefore sent to the insurance company:

"Request that grain salvaged from fire at elevators at Inland, Alberta, be made available to local farmers by being offered in small lots at auction. Real Need of feed in district, and farmers resentful that livestock buying company should be able to buy unfinished livestock cheaply and also the grain to feed them and take same out of district, thus preventing farmers from finishing their own livestock and averting some loss. Please act immediately.

Nichols, Secretary, A.F.U."

This wire was received in reply:

July 30th, 1945

Nichols

Secretary A. F. U., Edmonton.

CANNOT ACCEDE REQUEST FIRST BECAUSE ONLY INTEREST OF INSURANCE COMPANIES TO GET BEST PRICE. SECOND GOOD GRADE FIREBURNT HERETOFORE SOLD FARMERS MIXED AND RESOLD AS STRAIGHT GRADES

STOP WE DON'T SELL LIVESTOCK BUYERS

Grain Insurance and Guarantee Co.

In addition to this we sent a wire to Hon. Jas. A. McKinnon, minister of trade and commerce, Ottawa, as follows:

"Wheat Board advises that spoiled grain is at the disposal of insurance company. Owing to shortage of feed farmers have to ship livestock in unfinished condition, and they have legitimate complaint that a livestock buying firm is able to buy their unfinished livestock at cheap prices, and also buy up all the feed grain available and thus prevent farmers' opportunity of finishing own livestock.

Informed that Pool Elevator is selling grain locally, but only have small stocks. Most of grain was in other elevators and under control of Grain Insurance and Guarantee Co., Winnipeg, (65 to 70% salvaged).

In view of severe feed shortage request that Government put pressure on Insurance Company to make this grain available to local farmers.

It might be possible to attach this grain under freezing order of last Saturday, July 28th.

Nichols, Secretary A.F.U."

We have received the following reply:

COPY OF WIRE RECEIVED

July 31st, 1945

CANADIAN WHEAT BOARD ADVISE TWO INSURANCE COMPANIES ARE INTERESTED IN GRAIN SALVAGE AT INLAND STOP THE GRAIN INSURANCE AND GUARANTY COMPANY ADVISE THAT THEY HAVE NOT YET SOLD THEIR SALVAGE AND ARE WILLING TO ACCEPT BIDS FROM ANYONE BUT THE WHOLE SALVAGE MUST BE SOLD IN A BULK LOT STOP THEY WILL NOT SELL PIECEMEAL STATING THAT EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT THEM IF SOLD IN THIS WAY IT IS PICKED OVER AND THEY ARE FINALLY LEFT WITH A QUANTITY OF WORTHLESS GRAIN WHICH INVARIABLY MUST BE REMOVED TO GARBAGE DUMP STOP GRAIN INSURANCE HAVE APPROXIMATELY THIRTY THOUSAND BUSHELLS STOP POOL AGENCIES HAVE APPROXIMATELY EIGHTEEN THOUSAND BUSHELLS AND REPORT THAT THEIR ADJUSTER HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO SELL THE GRAIN TO HIGHEST BIDDER AND WILL SELL EITHER PEACEMEAL OR THE TOTAL BULK LOT STOP THEY ARE NOT

SURE IF ANY HAS BEEN SOLD BUT THEY DO GIVE FARMERS PREFERENCE IF PRICE IS EQUAL TO OUTSIDE BIDS STOP UNDER FOREGOING CIRCUMSTANCES IT WOULD SEEM ADVISABLE FOR FARMERS TO MAKE ONE BID ON GRAIN INSURANCE BULK LOT ALSO ON POOL AGENCIES BULK LOT

JAS. A. MACKINNON.

The Union did all it could in this matter and it would appear that the only way that farmers can get possession of salvaged grain is to be prepared to buy it in one lot.

C. C. I. L.

by J. Jackson

At our Annual Provincial Convention in Edmonton in January last the following resolution was recommended to the delegates by the Board of Directors: "Moved by the Board of Directors of the Alberta Farmers' Union that we recommend to the Convention that they give their support to the organization drive of the C.C.I.L. This resolution was adopted on motion Mr. McDonald, seconded by Mr. Collins." Immediately afterwards Mr. J. L. McMillan moved as follows: — "I wish to move that the delegates assembled in this convention go on record as instructing our incoming board to do everything possible to assist C.C.I.L. in the organization work of putting across the drive for funds." This was seconded and carried.

It is to be noted particularly that not one dissenting voice was raised against either of these resolutions. In accordance with these definite instructions and also in accordance with our policy as set out on page 6 of our Alberta Farmers' Union Manifesto, the board has given every assistance possible to the C.C.I.L.. It is to be noted however that one of our Directors did not carry out the instructions of our Convention in this matter and when the District Convention came along this Director was not re-elected. Thus proving beyond a doubt that the rank and file of our membership believe in the co-operative way of doing business.

We all must surely realize that it was only by very close co-operation that we have been enabled to bring the War to a successful conclusion in the European theatre. Also that Co-operation is essential in bringing hostilities to a favourable conclusion in the Pacific. Thus we shall have won the war by **Co-operation**; and the peace must be won in the same way exactly by **Co-operation**.

We of the United Nations succeeded in winning World War 1; but we failed to win the Peace

from 1918 to 1939. This time we shall win the war and we must also **Win the Peace**. We must resolve that the sacrifices of this war have not been in vain. How are we going to do this? By the application of the principles of true Co-Operation in every field, locally, Provincially and Interprovincially, Nationally and Internationally.

And like charity we must begin at home. Now we are informed that the Agricultural Implement Manufacturers are not satisfied with the profits they have been making under the ceiling on farm machinery and therefore, it is proposed as soon as war restrictions are lifted to raise the prices on all farm machinery. There is one way and one way only by which we farmers can protect ourselves from this proposed increase in prices,—which of course will lower our standard of living—and that is by building and strengthening C.C.I.L. and distributing our own machinery at cost,—co-operation— in the setting up of C.C.I.L.

A quota was allotted to each of the three Prairie Provinces \$220,000.00 to Manitoba, \$420,000.00 to Saskatchewan and \$360,000.00 to Alberta. Manitoba and Saskatchewan have already exceeded their quota, the latter by \$110,000.00 whilst we in Alberta have only raised to date \$115,000.00,—\$245,000.00 still to go. There are 700 canvassers kits in the hands of Albertans, if each one of those canvassers sent in \$350.00 our objective would be reached and this can be done, if the canvassers would only get out and **do the job**.

Already some canvassers have sent in many times \$350.00 but then too many have done absolutely nothing. Some of our Alberta Farmers' Union locals have received kits but evidently have failed to appoint canvassers, or if they have been appointed they have not gone to work. As long as canvassers retain kits and do not do the work, they are obstructing the campaign. If you are one of those who have a canvassers kit and are not actively canvassing, please do either one of two things, get busy and canvass your district or send the kit back to C.C.I.L. office in Edmonton so that some one else may be appointed to do the work immediately.

Farmers of Alberta, do you realize that you are the hold up, the Provincial Governments of the three Prairie Provinces are prepared to put up one quarter of a million dollars each and the Major Co-Operatives \$500,000.00 but all this is contingent on the Farmers themselves subscribing one million dollars. Manitoba and Saskatchewan have put up their Quotas, and the fate of C.C.I.L. is now in the Hands of the Farmers of Alberta. It is up to us, What are going to do about it?

Sub-District Conventions Throughout District No. 3.

Our first Sub-District Convention was held June 18th at Lac La Biche in Sub-District No. 5. There were 45 present representing six locals. A few showers most likely prevented more being in attendance. A good meeting with some lively discussion on various matters. This was the only sub-district that presented any resolutions, six in number. The members near Lac La Biche had arranged for a dance that evening to raise funds to pay the convention expenses. The rain interfered but the dance was quite successful. Mr. Wm. Cebuliak of Noral was elected Sub-District Director. Sub-District Committee as follows:

Charles Smith, Caslan
 Alf Raymond, Hylö
 Joe Shapka, Charron
 Mr. N. L. Moulle, Craigen
 George Kudrynatsky, Donatville

The next Sub-District Convention was held at Athabasca June 20th in Sub-District No. 4. I left the bus a few miles east of Colinton and had dinner with Mr. Oscar Kennedy, the sub-director and then we motored to Athabasca. A poor attendance at this meeting and only three locals represented. The resolutions passed at the former sub-district convention were considered and endorsed. Mr. H. Young of Millet was the speaker from Head Office. He arrived at 4 p.m. having been at Meeting Creek the day before. Mr. O. Kennedy was returned as Sub-Director. Sub-District Committee as follows:

Frank Malik, Richmond Park
 M. H. Johnson, Athabasca
 Wm. Haley, Athabasca
 Wilbert Rose, Athabasca
 Mike Byrtus, Athabasca
 Andy Locky, Athabasca
 Howard Stafford, Athabasca
 R. Rollings, Meanook
 Don Nicolls, Perryvale

June 21st. found Mr. Young and myself at Clyde Sub-District No. 3. Only a few at this meeting and four locals represented. The resolutions presented at Lac La Biche were discussed and endorsed. Mr. H. Young was guest speaker from the Executive. Mrs. Vera Starr was returned as Sub-District Director, Committee men:

George Jack, Clyde
 Val Craddock, Picardville

There is a man at Nestow whom we hope to have in this committee. He got material to form a local but could not stay because he had caught a ride and had to return immediately.

The Sub-District Convention for Sub-District No. 1 was held at Barrhead June 23rd. Mr. Nichols, Union Secretary was the speaker at this meeting. Mr. Herman Hauck and Mr. Pringle were chairman. One of the before mentioned res-

olutions was defeated, the one pertaining to Homesteads. This meeting started rather slowly but at one time there were 60 in the Hall. There were about 100 persons at the meeting during the afternoon.

Mr. A. Littke was returned as Sub-District Director. Mr. Nichols and myself thumbed a ride back to Edmonton and I spent most of Sunday with the Nichols family. Monday I presented our freight rates clause to the Freight rates meeting of the Calgary and Edmonton Chambers of Commerce. Of course that is printed in our Action Program and they were quite interested. I had six copies and they sent to our office for 14 more copies. So perhaps the day was not spent in vain.

June 26th was the final Sub-District Convention held at Dapp. 25 present at this meeting. Mr. Nichols was the speaker but was cut short by a rather heavy shower. The roads are rather nasty in this district when wet and people were anxious to leave. Outside of that we had a very interesting meeting. Mr. Dobson Lea and Mr. Cyee were chairmen. I would like to state that we have some very able chairmen throughout this whole district. The former resolutions were debated and passed. We tried to formulate a wheat resolution that would be just for the farmer who produces wheat on a small scale, and still be acceptable to the government. Mr. Steve McDonall of Larkspur Local was elected Sub-District Director, which gives us one more official as Mr. Dobson Lea held two positions prior to this meeting. We would have liked a larger attendance but those that did attend were very keen and we hope to see the Union develop more strength.

It was decided to present a resolution along the following lines at the meeting of the District Convention which will be held just prior to the Annual Provincial Convention in Edmonton (Locals and Delegates in District No. 3 please note).

Wheat resolution for presentation at Annual Convention of District No. 3.

WHEREAS it would seem to be a more equitable arrangement to give a larger quota to those farmers who live in the northerly districts of Alberta and farm smaller acreage which give larger yields than those who farm large areas in semi-dry districts where the yield per acre is much less and therefore in many cases are able to market their whole crop under a 14 bushel quota while the farmers in the more northerly areas can only market half to one-third of their crop, and

WHEREAS wheat is a cash crop the small number of bushels allowed on a small acreage are not sufficient to provide threshing expenses

and living for the family and these are about the same on a small or large farm.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED that we the farmers of District 3 of the Alberta Farmers' Union, which includes parts of Jasper-Edson and Athabasca Constituencies request the Dominion government to double the wheat quota on farms growing less than 80 acres of wheat.

R. N. Russell, Dist. Director No. 3.

Report of Convention of District No. 7 will appear in our next issue.

CORRESPONDENCE

OPEN FORUM

(The opinions expressed are those of our readers and not the official view of the Union).

A SUGGESTION FROM BRUNO LOCAL No. 341, Sec. Mr. Skish

We have some 52 members in our Local and also have a Co-Op Store in our town. We have formed a buying and selling chart of farm implements and products and it's hung up in our Co-Op Store in view of the customers.

We've also passed a resolution in our local "that any farmer who is not a member of the Alberta Farmers' Union is not able to list his article for sale or buy any article that is listed."

It seems to be very practical and we are able to get more members in that way. We would advise every local to do similar.

Why Won't the Canadian Farmer Organize?

Yes, why won't the Canadian farmer organize? Is it because he is too dense to see the value of organization, or is it because he is too busy making money? If it is the former I guess the poor guy is not to be blamed, but if it is the latter he is going to realize, perhaps when it is too late, that organization is the only solution to our problems. What sane minded farmer, can say, that this is not so, especially with all the evidence that has been brought to us from the British and Welsh farm organizations. Look what they have done, and they are only 75% organized. What could we here in Canada do if we were 75% organized instead of 20%? If it hadn't been for organization our boys could not have landed on the main land of Europe and driven the Nazi hordes back into Germany where they belong. On the field of sport the team with the best organization wins the game. Yes, organization makes the world go around, and has ever since the beginning of time. If it were not for unionism, there would not be a human race today. If it were not possible for the organs in our very bodies to work together there would be no human race.

The manufacturer is wise enough to see the value of unionism by 100%. When war broke out and the government asked the manufacturers to make munitions at 5% profit they promptly refused and asked 10% and in some cases 15%. Why? Because they were 100% organized and the government could do nothing but meet their demands. If the farmers of Canada were well organized they could also realize their ambitions. Agricultural Boards could be set up, not of Doctors and Lawyers, but of farmers. These Boards could set prices on farm products, — prices that would be fair to both producer and consumer. But in spite of all this evidence, the Canadian farmer has not yet seen the light.

R. H. HAWLEY,
Nampa, Alberta.
Sect'y District No. 2.

Can This be True?

Remarkable statement by the Secretary of West Australian Wheat Growers:

"According to H. J. Prater, general secretary of the Primary Producers' Association of Western Australia, the wheat growers of the Commonwealth are losing over £5,000,000 (\$17,650,000 at current exchange) on their last two wheat crops because of government policy of selling the wheat for domestic use at less than its export value. Mr. Prater takes the bushelage in question and working out the amount sold at less than export values asserts that the growers were short paid on their 1942-43 crop £1,230,208, and on the next crop £4,114,061, a total of £5,344,269.

The Minister of Commerce has tried to mollify the irate wheat growers by telling them that if they take less now then they might be entitled to some time in the future if prices fell, the government would recompense them with subsidies. He thought that it would have been a good thing if the amount of current deficiency in payments to the growers had been put in a trust fund for the use of the wheat growers at some future date, but nothing of the kind had been done. The inference was that the farmers were just out of luck. This and the failure so far to get the government to raise the initial payment on wheat deliveries from the 1945-46 crop has added considerably to the discontent of the farmers."

In order to get the truth on this matter, the Secretary of the A.F.U., has written to Mr. H. J. Prater, asking for further information, as we understood that Australian farmers were getting better treatment from the Labor Government there, than are the farmers in Canada from the Liberal Government!

Farm Women's Corner

We talk of attending Conventions but I hardly think anyone could have felt the effects of the intense heat more than those delegates and officials who attended the Wainwright District 7 Convention. Probably because it happened to be Friday 13th. However these delegates have to be admired, the officials as well — who stuck to their responsibilities — trusting they would eventually benefit financially through an united effort to improve and stabilize the returns for their labors; while others in their farm homes accomplishing so little with their hay-making, on account of the shortage of moisture this year. What a longing feeling—so noticeable in everyone in that vicinity for a good rain to freshen up that parched crop.

To the large families—who have no crop, no garden—lesser cream cheques—must come a great hardship—more especially to the Mother whose task is to budget. Although the “Family Allowance Act” will alleviate the grim sacrifices—I just wonder if Mothers realize they will still need to pay (indirectly of course) for the payment of such grants.

Still we must admit—if these allowances are spent wisely—it will help rural homes to carry on as the saying goes, “till next year”, where there is a large family.

It was a great surprise when I knew I was invited to go to Wainwright—but I appreciated the opportunity very much. Here I met several farm women like myself—and including Mrs. James Jackson, wife of our Union President.

We women can realize the sacrifices she makes along with her family—when the busy seasons come—and Mr. Jackson away attending meetings and Conventions even as far South as the Border. This conscientious and hard work is for our benefit. I might say it is not the President, and Executive only who will make our Union speak for itself, but we as members each and everyone doing his or her part, with a 100% signed up.

If this drought continues, will we still have to live in a “Fool's Paradise”, and accept what is handed out to us for our Produce?

I enjoyed reading the letters in June issue by Mrs. Geddes and Mrs. Pharis. We can always learn something from other people's views. Regards a “Separate Women's Section” I hardly think it will materialize for sometime. Women are so wrapt up with their household affairs, and of course other organizations, that the same meeting, and the same conveyance will be more popular—for the majority of farm women have come to realize that the resolutions submitted by our

men—are theirs as well. Let us all try and get more informed in the Principles of our Union—and see results.

Thanking you.

Just a member.

MEETING AT CHORNAHORA

At the request of Sam Nowakowski of Nestow an organization meeting on behalf of the Alberta Farmers' Union was held in Chornahora Hall on Sunday, July 15th.

There were 25 present at the meeting and Mr. Nowakowski was elected chairman and introduced the speaker, H. E. Nichols, the General Secretary. He dealt with the purposes which the organization had in view and the responsibility of each individual farmer to become a member if Parity Prices were to be obtained and maintained for Agriculture. He stressed that NOW was the time for farmers to join if they were to be organized strongly enough to hold and maintain the prices we already enjoy as it will be much harder to regain them if we once lose them.

Much interest was shown and it was decided to hold another meeting on 29th. July to elect officers. 20 members were signed up and there is every indication that this will become a strong local.

A collection was made amounting to \$5.80.

BUTTER PRODUCERS MUST REGISTER

Although primary producers are not required to register with the Ration Administration unless they sell produce for which ration coupons must be collected, there is an exception in the case of butter, where all producers are required to register with the board, regardless of whether or not they are suppliers.

Every registered farm producer is required to file with the local ration board, each month, a statement in writing recording his transactions in rationed foods during the previous month. At the same time he must submit all ration coupons and documents collected to cover transactions. The deadline is the 10th of each month. The coupons and documents can be forwarded in special primary producers' envelopes RB-61's) provided for that purpose.

BOUNTY ON COYOTES

The bounty on coyotes of \$5.00 per pelt is to be continued for 1945, up to October 15th. Applications for same will be received up to Octo-

ber 31st of this year.

The pelt, after it is produced for bounty, will have the ears split. It will then be returned to the person bringing same for whatever disposition he sees fit. This is a change to last year's regulations, where the Government retained the pelts and in the summer months destroyed them by burning. From now on merely payment of the bounty will be carried out and the pelt will be the property of the person capturing same.

Bounty on wolves and cougars, now paid for a good many years, will be continued for 1945, the cougar bounty being \$15.00 per pelt, and timber wolf, including wolf pups, \$10.00.

EXTRACT FROM MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE OF THE EXECUTIVE

Held July 3rd, 1945.

Considerable discussion arose over the present attitude taken by Mr. Bevington. Moved by Jackson that the following be inserted in next issue of the Bulletin: "Due to Mr. Bevington's unwillingness to stick by the instructions of the Annual Convention in regard to our support of the C.C.I.L. the Board in accordance with the powers conferred upon it by the constitution, disqualified Mr. Bevington from acting as a director of the A.F.U. at a Board Meeting held June 15, 1945, and therefore now does not officially speak on behalf of the Farmers' Union.

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Editorial

No doubt, as a result of all the Conventions that have been held, both Sub-District and District, a large number of resolutions will soon be finding their way into Head Office. "Well!" you say, "What is the use of having Conventions if we don't pass resolutions so the Executive will know what the members are thinking." That's fine! That's exactly what the Executive wants; lots of resolutions but don't deal with too many subjects. You see,—if you spread yourselves over too much territory, you cease to have any force and become stagnant. You know the force that a river can exert as long as it is confined between its two banks but if it spreads out over a wide tract of land it becomes an inert pool and gradually degenerates into a passive swamp. That is why we want to keep our energies confined into a strong stream that will make progress and if we are to do that we must confine ourselves to the objectives that matter. It doesn't make any difference how many resolutions you send in provided you don't deal with too many subjects and also see that those subjects are the important ones. Those which deal with matters which, if you can get implemented into parliamentary or governmental action, will have the effect of making agriculture a worthwhile profession not only for the present, but for the future.

What Do the Farmers Want

If we are going to do this, we farmers must make up our minds what we really want first of all, and then having made up our minds see that we express our wants in well defined language.

Sometimes a local issue assumes an importance out of all proportion to its real value, and we allow ourselves to be diverted. We must guard against this and also we must guard against being side-tracked by other issues which seem important but which would disappear if we were successful in obtaining our real objective. What is the objective? Well, Parity Prices are

what we want and if we can obtain these and make this a permanent policy for any and every Canadian Government to follow, then some of the other issues which we consider of relative importance today would almost disappear.

Let us then guide the strong deep river of the Union to this ultimate objective and do not let it gradually dissipate its volume into impotent little side streams which eventually dwindle away into ineffectiveness.

Crop Insurance or Price Insurance?

You will remember we had a resolution last year asking for Crop Insurance. In order to tackle this big problem, one which has successfully defied the organized farmers for over thirty years, we asked for suggestions from our members and offered three substantial prizes. Only seven replies were received, and in talking the matter over with several farmers from different parts of the province, the opinion generally expressed is that farmers are quite prepared to carry their own insurance against natural hazards provided they could be sure of a parity price and an adequate quota for future years. From this, one is led to the conclusion that what the farmers really want is a "Price Insurance" and they can obtain this by Union Action. Then if this is what we really want, why not concentrate all our resolutions,—as as well as our efforts—into getting it, and not clutter up our Convention with issues which are really unimportant but which assume a position of considerable importance if a large number of resolutions are received requesting that they be dealt with.

It is this singleness of purpose that we must educate ourselves into practising. One of the good effects of the war has been to elevate farm prices to a reasonable level. If we are wise, we shall seek to maintain that level and we must be willing to fight to the limit to do so because we can be quite sure that if our organization is not strong enough to maintain and hold what we already have, it will take a very much stronger organization to win back what we are not strong enough to hold. Let us see to it that we do not dissipate our strength over too wide an area but concentrate on the thing we really want until we have won it permanently.

* * * *

In accordance with instructions given at the last Annual Convention efforts will be made to hold the next Convention at an earlier date. Tentative dates have been set for November 27-30 if threshing conditions permit. It will therefore be necessary to hustle with your resolutions and they must be received in the office post marked not later than Nov. 10th in order to ensure consideration.

Convention of District No. 6.

held at Lamont on July 14th, 1945.

Convention opened by District President Mr. A. Milsap, at 11 a.m.

Nomination of Chairman to conduct meeting, J. Melenka, Chester McGowan and Carl Stimpfle nominated.

Moved by J. Kubin nomination cease.—Carried.

J. Melenka withdrew.

Nomination of Resolution committee. It was agreed by the convention that the Resolutions committee consist of three members.

The following were nominated.

W. S. Oliver nominated by N. Shandro

J. Kubin nominated by J. Pidoborozny

J. Melenka nominated by J. Wachnuik

C. Johnson nominated by H. Hall

Moved by N. Kasian seconded by J. Melenka nomination cease.—Carried.

Moved by B. Kozak seconded by H. Hall that the resolutions committee consist of four instead of three members. — Carried.

The minutes of last years convention were read by the secretary. Moved by B. Kozak, seconded by N. Kasian minutes be adopted as read.—Carried.

Resolutions: 1

REGARDING SOME FORM OF COMPULSORY MEMBERSHIP

WE urgently request the Central Executive to press the Provincial Government for some form of compulsory membership which will contribute to the efficiency and stability of our farmers union.

Moved by B. Kozak, seconded by J. Fedyaniak.

Moved by R. Goshko seconded by M. Lupul that this resolution be **tabled till afternoon**.—Carried.

Resolution No. 2

AMALGAMATION

The members of Hairy Hill Local No. 2 instruct the Central Executive to lose no time and spare no effort to first of all bring about an amalgamation with the U.F.A. and secondly to co-operate with the labor Union to which the railroad men belong.—Carried.

Moved by J. Wachnuik seconded by N. Kasian.

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by Davidson that the word affiliation be substituted with the word co-operation.—Carried.

Resolution as amended.—Carried.

Resolution No. 3

REGARDING AMALGAMATION WITH OTHER FARM ORGANIZATIONS

WHEREAS at the present time we have three farm membership organizations in the Pro-

vince of Alberta, which have similar objectives in view for the welfare of the farmers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Central Board of the A.F.U. strive to bring about the merging of the three organizations into one united farmers organization that can speak with one voice in the interest of the farmers of the Province.

Moved by J. Wachnuik, seconded by J. Melenka.—Carried.

Resolution No. 4

REGARDING SUBSIDIES ON COARSE GRAIN

WHEREAS the Western Farmers are being exploited due to the fact the we are not receiving the Subsidies on coarse grains fed on the farm

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we demand our Central Board to take Action on this matter, if necessary that Union principles be used to obtain results.—Carried.

Resolution No. 5

REGARDING DISTRICT DELEGATES AT ANNUAL CONVENTION

WHEREAS our organization does not seem to be making the progress that it should

WHEREAS each district association has the privilege of sending a delegate to the annual convention

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we request our Central Board to arrange for these thirteen delegates to assemble one day prior to the annual convention and that they be given the privilege of selecting resolutions that we feel are of vital importance to the movement, and were passed at the last Annual Convention and time be allowed on the agenda of the convention for a detailed account by the executive as to progress made on these resolutions.

Moved by A. Milsap seconded by N. Dolynchuk.—Carried.

Resolution No 6

REGARDING FARM RADIO FORUM

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by H. Hennig.—Carried.

Resolution 7.

REGARDING DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

WHEREAS we are still working under daylight saving time and daylight time is not satisfactory to the agricultural people

1. It creates a handicap to rural children attending school

2. It is not satisfactory for harvest operations

3. Farmers work more than Union hours (8)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that we insist on having standard time re-instated.

Moved by W. S. Oliver seconded by N. Kasian.—Carried.

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by B. Kozak that convention be adjourned for dinner till 1:30 p.m,

Resolutions No. 8

REGARDING TAX ON TRACTOR GAS

WHEREAS the 3c Federal Tax imposed on Tractor gas as a war measure, in order to save gas for the armed forces

WHEREAS this measure is discrimination against the farmer who operates a high or semi-high compression tractor

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that as the war in Europe is over that this tax be removed immediately.

Moved by J. Campbell seconded by J. Fedyniak.—Carried.

Financial statement was taken up at 2 p.m.

Moved by P. Kereluik seconded by J. Pedoborozny that the financial statement be adopted.—Carried.

Discussion of financing district association.

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by W. S. Oliver that the dues to Central Office be put back on a calendar year basis instead of the present system.—Carried.

Moved by Chas. Cholowski seconded by J. Fedyniak, that all local secretaries be notified to send in the district dues immediately after the district convention.—Carried.

Resolution No. 9

REGARDING SETTING UP MACHINERY TO BE PREPARED IN CASE OF NON DELIVERY STRIKE

Moved by George Chaba seconded by J. Fedyniak.—Carried Unanimous.

Resolution No. 1 brought back to floor.

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by Cholowski. Resolution be voted down.—Carried. See res. 1.

Resolution No. 10

Regarding Petition to make collection of dues through Municipality possible.

Moved by Chas Cholowski seconded by B. Kozak but was withdrawn by mover Cholowski.

Resolution No. 11

COLLECTION OF DUES BY MUNICIPALITIES AND LOCAL IMPR. DISTRICTS

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by Chester McGowan.—Carried as amended.

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by B. Kozak that Central Office send this resolution to all Municipal Secretaries for the councils' consideration and ask them to have their delegates present it at the Municipal Convention to be held this fall.—Carried

Report by District Director J. Melenka.

Mr. Melenka reported on the duties of the Board of Directors. The purpose of the action fund all locals were asked to contribute 25c. per member to this fund. He also touched on collection of dues through municipalities and the need of amalgamation with other farm organizations also co-operation with Trade Unions. Mr. Melenka also expressed the opinion that farmers must be enjoying a period of prosperity as Farmers

meetings are so poorly attended but that it should be kept in mind that if the farmers are not going to be organized they won't have the time or money to attend Auction Sales which are so well attended these days.

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by Davidson that the Directors report be adopted.—Carried

Report by District President Mr. A. Milsap.

Mr. Milsap thanked the delegates for attending and expressed appreciation for having had the privilege of being the chairman of the district Board. He also mentioned the success of the sub-district Rallies held last winter within district No. 6. Also of the need of the A.F.U. Bulletin and a detailed account of the district conventions be printed in the Bulletin in order that locals have a record of what was going on at district convention. Also outlying unorganized districts should be brought into the union and that every body owes it to his family to build a strong organization in order to prevent going back to years of depression such as the thirties and that the organization stands for Parity not Charity.

Moved by Carl Stimpfle seconded by J. Melenka that the President report be adopted.—Carried

In his report W. S. Oliver Vice-President stressed the need of lady members in the organization and the wonderful success locals with women members are having. He also mentioned the very successful picnics put on by A.F.U. Locals within Sub-Division No. 1.

Moved by A. Malo seconded by Cholowski that the Vice President report be adopted.

The Sub-Directors as elected at sub-district conventions were introduced. The following are the sub-directors.

Division No.:—

- 1, Carl Stimpfle, Egremont
- 2, Wm. Unterschultz, RR1 Ft. Saskatchewan
- 3, J. S. Kubin, Vegreville
- 4, J. Melenka, Warwick
- 5, N. Shandro, Willingdon

Credential Committee reported that there were 25 locals and 68 delegates present of which 5 were lady delegates.

Registration of Locals	\$25.00
Ribbons	17.00
	<hr/>
	\$42.00

and that \$53.80 was collected in local dues to the District Association.

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by N. Kasian the report of Credential Committee be adopted.—Carried.

Election of Officers.

DIRECTOR

J. Melenka nominated by B. Kozak
Carl Stimpfle nominated but withdrew
J. S. Kubin nominated by Pidoborozny

Moved by F. Yurkew seconded by Wm. Ostashek that nominations cease.

Moved and seconded to have the vote taken by a show of hands.

J. Melenka was elected.

DISTRICT PRESIDENT

A. Milsap nominated by George Chaba

J. S. Kubin nominated by Pidoborozny

J. S. Kubin withdrew

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by N. Shandro that nomination cease.

Mr. A. Milsap elected by acclamation.

VICE PRESIDENT

W. S. Oliver nominated by Chas Cholowski

J. S. Kubin nominated by W. S. Oliver.

Moved by Davidson nominatin cease.—Carried

Moved by Pat Burke seconded by Davidson to take the vote by the show of hands.

J. S. Kubin elected.

Moved by Pedoborozny that Mr. H. E. Nichols speak before supper as some of the delegates might go home after supper.—Carried

In his address Mr. Nichols stressed the importance of sub-district conventions as the members have an opportunity of expressing their thoughts on questions of interest to them. He also expressed the opinion that several small local are more likely to be successful than one large one. Mr. Nichols stated that the Union has grown from 3000 members in 1941 to 20,000 in 1945. And that through organization western farmers have obtained 20c per bus on wheat when delegation went to Ottawa. The bonus on premium bacon; rationing of Jams and preserves. He also spoke on the matter of affiliation with Trade Union and believed that a working agreement would be better than affiliation also that the greatest importance to farmers is Parity Price and that the Union is striving for this. Mr. Nichols also explained the purpose of the national farmers conference to be held in London. Also the discrimination against Alberta by the Railroad freight rates. At this point chairman suggested that the meeting be adjourned for supper and have Mr. Nickols continue afterwards. After supper Mr. Nickols spoke on export trade and the Action Program.

Moved by Mr. A. Milsap that a vote of thanks be given to the Ladies who served meals to the delegates.

It was also moved by A. Milsap seconded by J. S. Kubin to give a vote of thanks to Mr. Nichols

Resolution No. 12

REGARDING DETAILED REPORT IN BULLETIN

It is felt by the Board of District No. 6 that there are many things of interest to the locals that are discussed at district conventions especially resolutions regarding organizational work relating to the district. This should be made

available for discussion to the various members of the locals. And as the A.F.U. Bulletin is the only logical means of communicating such matters to the locals.

THEREFORE we members of the Board of District No. 6 request Central Office to publish in the A.F.U. Bulletin a detailed report of the important items including the important resolutions as submitted by the District Secretary.

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by Wm. Ostashek.—Carried

Resolution No. 13

ON SUSPENSION FROM THE BOARD

WHEREAS there is no provision in the A.F.U. Constitution to empower the Executive to suspend any member of the Board

AND WHEREAS the board meets only twice a year which gives the suspended member of the board to act until the board meets

THEREFORE BE IT RESOVED that the constitution be so amended as to give power to the executive to suspend any member of the board until next board meeting when the action of the Executive must be ratified by the board.

Moved by A. Milsap seconded by Babich.—Carried

Resolution No. 14 endorsing sections of Action Program.

Section 4 Federal Policies Floor Prices.

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by N. Shandro,—Carried

Section 14 Crop Insurance be in force.

Moved by McGowan seconded by Kozak.—Carried

Section 16 Health services be available.

Moved by McGowan seconded by Chaba.—Carried

Moved by J. Melenka seconded by Wm. Ostashek that this convention go on record as endorsing the stand taken by Central Office regarding freight rates and are prepared to take action if necessary.—Carried

A. Milsap gave a short talk on CCIL as the speaker from CCIL did not appear.

Moved by J. Melenka convention be adjourned.

SUB-DISTRICT CONVENTIONS HELD IN DISTRICT No. 4

At Ardmore in sub-district 4 B a good meeting was held with about 40 present. The beer parlour was closed during the length of the meeting and the proprietor attended the convention. Such co-operation is much appreciated and other districts might take note and try to make similar arrangements for the future.

Sub-District 4 is divided in A and B sections for convenience and at the Ardmore meeting the following officers were elected Sub-Director W. A. Crowe and two committee men Dan Alewzuk and Geo. York, Beaver Crossing.

The meeting of sub-district 4 A was held at Glendon June 19th. The Chairman chosen was Mr. Melnychuk while Mr. Mecalchuk acted as Secretary. About 40 were present and it was stated the farmers were busy breaking. One committee man was elected, H. Gustafson, of Malloy Post-Office, and it was decided to elect the other two committee men for sub-district No. 4 at Smoky Lake District Convention. The Provincial Secretary gave a talk on organization work and the Action Program.

ELK POINT MEETING Sub-District 5B of District No. 4

This was a fair meeting with about 20 present. It started late and continued until 1 a.m. All the farmers are very much in favor of a Union and good interest was shown. President H. C. Flanders was in attendance and Harry Smith of Elk Point was elected as sub-director with Geo. Kinch and Geo. Dewey as committee men from division B.

St. Paul meeting represented division A of the same sub-district 5. The meeting was opened by M. Kosteshyn who called for names for chairman for the meeting. S. Passek nominated by S. Artezuik. Moved nominations cease by M. Rashinke and F. Celkewisk, Carried.

Chairman S. Passek was elected by acclamation and called for nominations for Secretary. Two were nominated, M. Kosteshyn and H. E. Nichols. Mr. Kosteshyn withdrew and H. E. Nichols was elected Secretary of meeting.

Provincial Secretary was asked to describe the set up of the sub-district conventions and he pointed out the valuable organization work which sub-directors, committee men and members can do; and also gave a short talk on the Action Program. Mrs. Jones then addressed the meeting and stressed the necessity of parity prices for the farm women and children and urged that the men persuade their wives to attend.

Nomination for three Committee men.

S. Passek nominated by M. Kosteshyn

M. Kosteshyn nominated by M. Rachinski

H. Eliuk, Shamrock Valley by M. Rashinski

Moved nominations cease by M. Kosteshyn seconded by M. Rashinski. Carried.

Resolutions were asked for; but there were none.

Mr. Baron, director for District No. 4 was then called upon to give information of the District No. 4 Convention to be held at Smoky Lake and concluded the meeting. Adjourned by M. Kostyshyn seconded by Mr. Pargor.

District Convention

District No. 2 held their Convention in the Athabasca Hall in Peace River on July 17th. This District comprises a large territory reaching

from High Prairie to Hotchkiss, a distance of better than one hundred and fifty miles and when settlement is made further in to the North we should then have the reputation of being the largest district in our organization. It was a glorious day and around sixty enthusiasts were on hand to discuss their problems and to hear their guest speaker who was sent from Head Office in the person of Mr. H. Young a gentleman who has had forty-five years experience as a farmer in this province.

The delegates and visitors were on hand to start proceedings around 10:30 and after the delegates had been registered and some of the routine business had been attended to, officers to carry on for the day had been elected, and the minutes of the last Convention had been read it was then around lunch time and so adjournment was called for and all went forth to attend to the needs of the inner man and this was indeed a problem, for we found to our sorrow that it was meatless Tuesday and one gentleman in particular we had to sympathize with, was Henry Young. Those of us who know him realize that to feed that frame takes some doing nevertheless he was on hand later on and seemed fairly contented. As for myself I am on a Diet and really puzzled as to how he did manage.

At 2 p.m. we reassembled and got right down to business and the first motion that came before the house was to hold everything up in favour of a very very important subject, that of organization. Practically every delegate present was determined to thrash this question out and arrive at some satisfactory decision. It was however a problem similar to that of our insurance problem and after a hour and half it still had us all beat. This is a question that must be tackled by the Executive and Board of Directors with both hands. The feeling of this meeting clearly showed that the membership was fully prepared for guidance and help at any time.

After this question had received attention the Resolutions were dealt with. All except two were passed and these were finally withdrawn as they were based on what was considered misinformation. Those that were passed will be brought up for consideration at the Annual Convention subject of course to the approval of the Resolution Committee and so I hardly think it necessary to quote them in this report. One however I will deal with.

This was a resolution sent in from Three Lakes Local No. 467 calling for equal representation on the Executive this has been dealt with before, nevertheless it is strongly considered that this North Land should be represented thereon and that some arrangements shall be made in order that District 1, 2 and B.C. Block should be in a position to choose one to represent the three areas.

Our Director and Mr. Young both thought it was solely a matter of expense that was preventing this being put into effect, but the members thought otherwise. It is felt we are part of this organization and as such we are fully entitled to it. Under the present set up we are supporting this organization and have no actual voice in the administration of its affairs. This is bordering on dictatorship and we strongly resent it.

We fully believe down here that the people in the South of this Province are not conversant enough regarding this North Land. A gentleman said at the last annual Convention that it was time the convention was held in Calgary, they were always held in the North. There you have it fellow members, he evidently forgot or didn't know that three hundred and sixty miles north of Edmonton lays the greatest agricultural tract of territory in the Province of Alberta and populated by the finest type of Pioneers that can be found perhaps in this Dominion.

We have lived too long in what may be termed God's forgotten pastures and we intend in the future to keep our wants clearly in view not only of our own organization, but before all bodies who are supposed to be working in the interest of Canadian Citizens.

That friends is the only resolution I am going to bring to your notice at this time and if you appreciate the support of it's hundreds of members in the North, then you will give it your utmost approval.

The next business on the agenda was that of electing the personnel to carry on the business of the District for the ensuing year. One important change was made that of our District Director, Mr. R. M. Hawley of Nampa was the choice. This gentleman takes the place of Mr. T. Oullett of McLennan. Mr. Hawley has difficult shoes to fill, for Tom Oullett has given faithful service as our representative on this Board for a long time and I would like to say how much we appreciate this gentleman's efforts in our behalf. Our whole membership of this District say "Thank You". Mr. Oullett becomes the President, Mr. W. Evans of Roma is the Vice-President and Mr. T. Smart of Grimshaw and Three Lakes will take care of Secretary's work. We believe this to be a capable board with every one of them deeply interested in the welfare of our organization. What we need now is the fullest co-operation of every individual member and then what is to prevent us from going on to Victory.

The hands of the clock were fast nearing the perpendicular and as we are Union members we had to quit at least for supper and what a spread. Meatless Tuesday was not visible here, three long tables were set out, flowers and all, in the spacious basement of this the most beautiful hall north of Edmonton, plates full to the edge, salads, Tomato Juice, yes and a plentiful supply of

ice cream and we take off our hats to the six really enthusiastic lady members who kindly did the catering and serving for this real feast.

As a result of this we are able to hand over twenty-eight dollars to our Action Fund. This indeed was a real day as far as District 2 is concerned a lot of business was put through in a short time.

After supper Mr. Young took the floor and gave us some real fatherly advice. Some useful hints in organizing and a few pointers on the problems of those members whose duty it is to shoulder the real burdens and problems of our Union.

After his interesting talk the convention came to an end and the Officers of the District met and discussed their schedule for the time up until the Annual Convention. These gatherings should come more frequently, getting together and being able to clasp the hands of our fellow members whom we so seldom see, is good for us.

In closing I might say that it was agreed that our next District Convention should, if permission can be granted, be held on the camp grounds of the Anglican Church at Lac Cardinal a most beautiful spot and a site that by that time will be fully equipped to take care of a real convention. We intend to make it a great time and many of our teen aged youngsters will be able to get some real enjoyment.

T. Smart, District Secretary
(Three Lakes Local 467).

RR 1, Bluffton, Alberta
July 27th, 1945.

The Annual Meeting and Picnic of the Lagreen Local No. 690 was held at Lawsela on July 19th, 1945. Officers were elected for the coming year:—

President: — Mr. C. K. Knight, re-elected
Vice-President: — Mr. Ernie Gorsky
2nd. Vice-President: — Mr. R. L. Gray

Directors:—

Mr. R. T. Vetsch Mr. C. Stern
Mr. V. Owen Mr. A. L. Stout
Secretary-Treasurer—Mr. William C. Bull;
Assistant Secretary—Mrs. E. Gorsky.

At the Annual Meeting the secretary gave an Annual Report in which was outlined the growth of this local from 10 members at the start, a year ago to 64 on the books to date and urged more to join.

The picnic was well attended. Mr. A. D. Olson, Director for District 9 was in attendance and spoke in the afternoon.

The day finished with a big dance at night. The whole affair being a great success.

William C. Bull
Secretary Lagreen Local No. 690.

Freight Rates

The railway companies have made application to the Dominion Government for a revision of freight rates—Upward.

The farmers of Alberta are justifiably opposed to any such revision on the present basis. In the first place, Alberta is at the Peak of the Freight rate structure being compelled to pay on some articles 2½ times as much as Ontario or B. C. In the second place, about 35 million acres of land were alienated from the Three Western Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, to help pay for main line construction all across Canada. Of this, Alberta's share was over 17 million acres. The cost of construction was far higher in Ontario and B. C. than it was on the prairies, and it is adding insult to injury to have the Transport Board impose higher freight rates in the Provinces where construction was cheaper and whose land was used to pay for higher construction costs elsewhere, and in addition put an outrageously discriminating freight rate schedule especially on the Province of Alberta. (See Action Program, Page 7).

The Edmonton Chamber of Commerce called a meeting to discuss this question of discriminatory freight rates, and at this meeting, the viewpoint of the A.F.U., as contained in our Action Program, was presented by R. N. Russell, Director District No. 3.

We have pointed out that the first action which should be taken is to equalize freight rates all across Canada on a per ton, per mile, basis. This will result in a considerable lowering of Alberta freight rates. When this has been done, then an over-all upward revision may be made if the railways have a legitimate case for this upward revision. In view of the highly discriminatory rates against Alberta, noted in our Action Program, we feel safe in saying that even if a general upward revision is justly needed, Alberta will at the same time be able to enjoy a considerable lowering of rates if put on an equalized rate with the whole of Canada.

The Union has, therefore, sent a copy of the resolution to Premier Manning, asking that the question be taken up at the Dominion Provincial Conference, and in addition to writing the other Western Farm Organizations has taken up the matter with Trades Unions in the hope that a mutually satisfactory settlement can be reached by working together.

This question of freight rates is of vital importance to the farmers of the West, and especially of Alberta, and therefore the Union will do everything it can to obtain reduced rates for Alberta Farmers.

Farmers Alarmed by Crop Outlook

The lack of rain over a large part of the Province has created a serious condition, especially with regard to the feed situation.

Many farmers are being compelled to still further reduce their number of hogs, and if conditions remain dry, there will be a considerable liquidation of livestock holdings.

The following press release was issued by James Jackson, President of the Alberta Farmers' Union.

"Prospects of crop in parts of province looks hopeless. Due to shipment of seed and feed grains eastward and across the border, provincial reserves are reduced to dangerous levels, making feed situation desperate. Suggest restriction prohibiting shipments of coarse grains from province until new crop, if any, is on hand."

The Farmers' Union points out that in Saskatchewan in the early 1930's grain reserves were depleted in a similar manner to the extent that it became necessary to ship it back to the province and "sell it at a great increase in price."

In some parts of the province this year's wheat crop is "finished" now, and in many other places the crop is so light that it will not be harvested, James Jackson, president of the Farmers' Union reported.

Unless immediate relief comes to the dry lands, the whole crop yield will be sharply curtailed.

Collection of Membership Dues

A delegation of the Alberta Farmers' Union consisting of the Executive, together with a committee of three from District No. 6 composed of J. Melenka, C. Stimpfle and A. Milsap, had an interview with Mr. Gerhart, Minister of Municipalities, regarding the resolution passed at our last Annual Convention, asking for the collection of membership dues through the municipalities.

The matter was thoroughly discussed and the Minister expressed himself as having a measure of sympathy with the objective sought and at the conclusion of the interview sent the following letter to President Jackson.

Dear Sir,

"Your delegation requesting the Government to provide amendments to the Municipal Districts Act whereby the ratepayers of a municipality could become members of the Alberta Farmers' Union either by a levy similar to taxes or by a grant from the municipality.

After consulting Mr. Gray of the Attorney General's Dept., in regard to section 254 of the Municipal Districts Act it is our opinion that any rural municipality already has power to make a grant to the Alberta Farmers' Union for this or any other purpose."

Yours very truly,
(signed) C. E. Gerhart, Minister.



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BUSINESS MAN TALKS COMMONSENSE

A few months ago, prior to the sittings of the McDougall Commission inquiring into the taxation of the co-operatives, G. S. Thorvaldson, president of the Income Tax Payers Association, was busily engaged in addressing Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce in leading Canadian cities, violently attacking farm co-operatives and particularly the Wheat Pools. He obtained extensive publicity and gained not a few converts to his way of thinking.

At the time the Alberta Wheat Pool pointed out that it was foolish for Boards of Trade and Chambers of Commerce, representing as they do the business life of the cities, to create divisions by engaging in a battle against farm co-operatives. It now appears that quite a number of outstanding business men in the United States are clearheaded enough to see the folly of such an attitude. Among them is Victor Emanuel, chairman of the Board of the Aviation Corporation, director of many other corporations and member of the New York State Chamber of Commerce. He recently issued a pamphlet on this subject in which he stated:

"Urban business cannot afford to engage in a life and death struggle with the farm people of America. Instead, executives should insist that their companies and associates infuse their organizations with an understanding of agricultural problems.

"We have everything to lose and nothing to gain in fighting with the farmer co-operatives. If I know anything at all about Washington and Federal Legislation, I know that what the National Tax Equality Association proposes cannot be accomplished. What it can and will do, however, is to incur the displeasure and enmity of agriculture and to create the very kind of atmosphere in which business cannot prosper or perhaps even survive. By co-operating with agriculture not only will the abuse of co-operatives and other businesses which are out of line be corrected, but business and industry will receive the sympathetic understanding of agriculture. This is vitally needed if our peculiarly American economy is to be preserved."

Mr. Emanuel said that most executives engaged in business and industry do not have any real conception of farm problems in general or of farm co-operatives in particular. In order to learn more about the issues uppermost in the minds of farmers he conversed and corresponded with scores of farm leaders and was struck by their intelligence and their statesmanlike understanding of the national economy. He says:

"The farm folk ring true. They are 'real people' and of the character which peopled this country originally, and when some business leaders encourage a tax upon rural organizations a resentment grows among these people against all business. That is why I so much urge a simple understanding of agriculture and of rural problems on the part of those in the cities."

Mr. Emanuel concludes by observing that if the attack against farm co-operatives is not soon stopped damage will be done that will take years and years to overcome. "I could possibly understand it if the co-operative movement were a new one", he says, "but it started in this country long ago. I cannot perceive why business men do not understand the simple proposition that where there is no profit there can be no income tax."

ALBERTA WHEAT POOL

The Alberta Wheat Pool has been a leader in the hard battle to prevent the government being forced to apply corporation income taxes against farmer co-operatives. Farmers can give help to this campaign by delivering their grain to Alberta Pool elevators.